# Portion of Gayle M. Rigione's Handwritten Notes of MasterCard Senior Management Group Meeting on June 4, 1996 (as interpreted by Gayle Rigione)

## 6-4-96 SMG Meeting

- 1. Amex
  - (1) Doors not being beaten down
  - (2) Seems to vary by region
  - (3) Why are EPI members silent abut Amex in light of Exclusives?
  - (4) Net: haven't hurt ourselves by remaining flexible
- (5) Discussed Amex letter to be sent to board. Was to be standard letter to all board members as agreed at last SMG meeting.

RWS - ME/A would not have sent out. Not appropriate. Canada - would have a proposal

(6) REDACTED

AJH: Important to give U.S. members a say in this since perceived as U.S. (primarily issue.) Would like to see a global consistent rule, concern about differentiated rules

REDACTED

P-1198

HEL: Europay board has always argued on other side. (Non-free market.)

Let free market reign. Now would be difficult to justify stand on exclusives. Would not want to hard code into rules.

Commission taking position it's taking - runs counter to position of certain banks in Europe who issued Amex cards. TC, etc.

What should paper look like?

CDT: A. Do nothing

- B. Restrict card members to duality
- C. Insist on share of portfolio, future mailings, new cards
- D. Increase interchange for all selected products
- E. Change assessments based support of other products
- F. Brand development fee if they do issue -- eye off ball therefore, owe MC (divergence of funds to competitor.) Global methodology with regional execution
- G. Stop exclusive arrangements with members

PNC: If Amex successful might steer banks away from MasterCard down road.

If Amex successful, extent to which members would drop, down road, MasterCard for Amex as the other card.

WIJ: need real strategy that stops Amex

AJH/JVT: Would not throw them a lifeline.

Trying to sustain them when we should let them wither.

AJH: REDACTED

RNC: Where does Citibank come out in all of this?

AJH: Have asked Citibank how they'd view it if we were silent on Amex. Citi checking with

counsel.

WIJ: Visa doesn't allow.

Don't want to be riding on Visa coattails. Passivity would be wrong.

JVT: Why not embrace Amex. Would bring assessments down.

CDT has a half-pregnant strategy

*REDACTED* 

HEL: Why not prohibit issuance of another brand that's a competing acceptance mark.

Mark equals acceptance mark.

RNC: Could we grandfather in Diner's?

Hel: Very complicated. Largest U.S. member.

Would we have to do same for JCB,

for Credicard?

Bank one buys Discover with Novus mark

RWS: What's Threat?

Amex 3rd viable global payments scheme?

Competing for relationships with key members?

AJH: American Banks issue more cards. More cards - stronger your leverage with merchants. Helps stem share loss

- cards out, stems share loss, helps acceptance. closed loop - quality is another factor/advantage

RWS: Will banks and other markets really abdicate control to Amex? Will be a really hard sell if Amex thinks they'll get top ten members in U.S., that U.S. guys will void their own business. AJH scenario is on margin.

CDT/AJH: Market share ploy

AJH: Four or Five at risk.

JVT: small to medium guys may jump.

WIJ: Expect Amex is significant competitor. Need to hinder ability of Amex to operate in your business.

RNC: Maybe Amex counting us to be more flexible. Our desperation to grow share.

WIJ: We cave, they fight Visa. They win, Amex has no downside, would create an Amex downside.

RNC: Banks in LAC upset about Visa telling them what they can or can't do. Banks hate to be dictated to.

HEL: Prohibit members from issuing the brands of a competing acceptance mark.

Would allow Discover to can Novus and become MC member.

Purcell could see this.

Leverage to negotiations with Amex, UC, Argencard, Credicard

### **REDACTED**

Hel: Biggest concern is Europe.

- Europay board. What happens if they don't pass same thing? MasterCard BIN numbers and branded cards will force discussions on rules, harmonization, etc.

### **REDACTED**

AJH: Diner's.

RNC: Grandfather of card program is owned by members.

**REDACTED** 

Hel: wrong path.

start simple and broad and qualify

The members cannot issue products of a competing payments brand that has its own acceptance mark"

Qualifiers - at time of adoption of policy

- Except where they own those companies
- Things other than MasterCard type products.
  - (1) rule passed globally

### (2) would go to regional boards for advice

WIJ: Risk not having it passed.

AJH: all U.S. would vote for this.

RWS: Canada will vote for. RNC: LA would vote for.

J Thoma: Precludes JCB issuance.

A/P board generally hates JCB, but they typically issue and promote.

### *REDACTED*

HEL: Should not put Amex paper in Board.

Could sent out summary document letter to all non-U.S., Canada, A/P, Latin America

### **REDACTED**

#### HEL:

- (1) Send to global board members done
- (2) Send to regional board members
- (3) Write Amex paper cover and meet will be tabled at meeting

RWS: how/why are we treating Visa.

need to explain difference of position versus Visa and why different

HEL: means we took the time to listen.

RWS: Difference not clearly understood, understand, around table.

HEL: we're different by acceptance mark aspect

RWS: Do not understand difference

HEL: Prohibit members from issuing product that has a competing multiregional acceptance mark. Issuer prohibition, open door under our terms to Amex and Discover.

AJH: Defensible if people listen carefully, may get it.

RWS: Amex issue with MC mark on it.

HEL: Would have to apply for a co-branded program.

**REDACTED** 

HEL: Recommendation item for Regional Boards voting for items at Global Board.